

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) In a surgical intramedullary system for compressing fractures having an elongated cannulated shaft with tang exit holes and at least one deployable tang, the improvement comprising ~~an end cap bonded to one end of said shaft by a first bond,~~ a tang body slidably disposed in ~~[[said]]~~ one end of said cannulated shaft, ~~the internal wall of said cannulated shaft and the external surface of said tang body congruently shaped to restrict movement of said tang body to the longitudinal axis of said cannulated shaft,~~ said at least one deployable tang formed separate from said tang body with a first end and a second end, said first end bonded to said tang body ~~by a second bond,~~ said second end adapted to transit one tang exit hole in said cannulated shaft upon longitudinal movement of said tang body, said tang body including a link adapted to cooperate with a tool to generate longitudinal movement;

whereby the use of different materials in the tang body and the deployable tangs is facilitated.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 1, ~~the improvement comprising said first bond and said second~~ wherein said bond is formed by laser welding.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 1, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said tang body [[being]] is formed of a first material, and said at least one ~~separate~~ deployable tang [[being]] is formed of a second material, said materials being compatible to produce a permanent ~~second~~ bond.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 3, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said tang body [[being]] is formed of titanium having a first ~~stiffness~~ degree of hardness, and said at least one ~~separate~~ deployable tang [[being]] is formed of titanium of a second lesser ~~stiffness~~ degree of hardness whereby said at least one ~~separate~~ deployable tang is adapted to deform during transit through said exit holes.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 4, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said at least one separate deployable tang ~~having~~ has a rectilinear shape defining planar sides having dimensions, said

dimensions affecting said ~~stiffness~~ deforming of said at least one tang.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 5, ~~the improvement comprising said~~ wherein an external surface of said tang body ~~having~~ has planar sections, said first end of said at least one separate tang bonded to a planar section.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 1, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said cannulated shaft and said end cap are formed of titanium.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 7, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said first bond and said second bond are formed by laser welding.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical intramedullary system of claim 1, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said link is composed of a central aperture through said tang body, said aperture having internal draw bolt threads.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) In a surgical orthopedic system for repair of bones including an elongated cannulated shaft for placement in the intramedullary canal, said cannulated shaft having radial exit holes, a tang body movably disposed in said cannulated shaft, said tang body having attached elongated tangs adapted to transit said exit holes, and an end cap, the improvement comprising ~~permanently bonding said end cap to one end of said cannulated shaft by laser welding,~~ providing a plurality of separate deployable elongated tangs uniformly disposed about the surface of said tang body, each of said plurality of separate deployable elongated tangs adapted to be permanently attached at one end to said tang body by laser welding, each of said plurality of deployable tangs having a rectilinear cross section for precise control of bending moment, said tang body having a central aperture with internal threads adapted to engage a draw bolt whereby said plurality of separate elongated tangs transit said exit holes as said tang body slides through said cannulated shaft;

whereby the use of different materials in the tang body and the deployable tangs is facilitated.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[In a]]~~ The surgical orthopedic system for repair of bones of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 10, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said cannulated shaft, said end cap and said plurality of tangs are constructed from titanium, said tangs having

a lesser degree of ~~stiffness~~ hardness [[less]] than the degree of ~~stiffness~~ hardness of said tang body whereby the transit force is adjusted.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical orthopedic system for repair of bones of claim 10, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein said cannulated shaft ~~having~~ has a plurality of intersecting planar internal walls, said tang body ~~having~~ has a plurality of intersecting planar exterior surfaces said planar internal walls and said planar exterior surfaces combining to restrict sliding of said tang body to a longitudinal direction.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] The surgical orthopedic system for repair of bones of claim 12, ~~the improvement comprising~~ wherein each of said plurality of separate deployable elongated tangs [[each]] are welded to a planar exterior surface of said tang body and said plurality of separate deployable elongated tangs numbers 4.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A surgical system comprising a intramedullary screw with an elongated cannulated shaft having a leading end and a trailing end, said cannulated shaft having shaped internal walls near said leading end and a plurality of tang exit holes in said shaft, a tang body slidably disposed near said leading end of said shaft, said tang body having an external shape

congruent with said internal walls of said cannulated shaft, said tang body having a plurality of separate deployable tangs adapted to be bonded to said tang body about said external shape, said external shape of said tang body and said shaped internal walls of said shaft registering said separate tangs and said tang exit holes, an end cap on said one end of said shaft having an aperture, said intramedullary screw made by the steps of:

(a) fabricating a tubular screw having an internal bore, said bore having a larger diameter near said leading end, forming intersecting planar surfaces on the sides of said larger diameter internal bore and radial exit holes therefrom;

(b) forming an end cap of a size to close said bore at said leading end;

(c) forming a tang body having an external surface with intersecting planar surfaces, said surfaces congruent with said planar surfaces on said internal sides of said bore, forming grooves in said intersecting planar surfaces and forming a central aperture internally screw threaded;

(d) forming a plurality of separate deployable elongated rectangular tangs having a length, width and height, chamfering one end of each of said plurality of tangs;

(e) placing one of said plurality of separate elongated rectangular tangs in each of said grooves in said tang body and laser welding said tang and said tang body together; and

(f) assembling said tubular screw and said tang body by sliding said tang body in said leading end of said screw with said separate elongated rectangular tangs disposed adjacent said exit holes; and  
(g) bonding said end cap to said one end by laser welding;

whereby the use of different materials in the tang body and the deployable tangs is facilitated.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The surgical system of claim 14 including the steps of:

(a) forming a shoulder in said bore adjacent said exit holes; and  
(b) sliding said tang body in said leading end to place said chamfered ends of said tangs adjacent said shoulder.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The surgical system of claim 14 including the steps of:

(a) inserting a tool through said bore from said ~~tail~~ing trailing end to said leading end, said tool having draw threads on the forward end;  
(b) turning said tool to engage said threads in said tang body and said draw threads on said tool; and  
(c) said turning of said tool translating said tangs through said tang exit holes when said tool contacts said end cap.

Claim 17. (New) The surgical intramedullary system for compressing fractures of claim 1, further including an end cap bonded to one end of said shaft.

Claim 18. (New) The surgical intramedullary system for compressing fractures of claim 1, wherein an internal wall of said cannulated shaft and an external surface of said tang body are congruently shaped to restrict movement of said tang body to the longitudinal axis of said cannulated shaft.